



Yess... Yess...  
Hello!...  
is the best

## Social &amp; Personal

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Sharrett yesterday paid a courtesy call on the Ambassador and David S. S. Linschitz, Ambassador to Brazil, Alfonso M. Shimon Sirkis and Mrs. Yulian Harmon. Dr. Nahum Goldmann dined with the Prime Minister yesterday.

The American Ambassador and Mrs. Lawson on Sunday visited the Icelandic ship *ms. Vatnajokull*, anchored off Haifa. They were received by the Icelandic Consul General and Mrs. R. Naschitz.

Mr. Richard Crossman, M.P., was received by Mr. D. Ben Gurion for a two-hour talk at the Galed Elmeret Hotel in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Mrs. Lorena Hahn, the American delegate to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, is visiting Israel as part of a Middle East tour. Mrs. Hahn has served as Vice-Chairman of the Republics Post-War Policy Committee, and as Director of Women's General Club in Germany. Yesterday evening, the Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry and Mrs. Arthur Louis gave a reception for her at their home in Jerusalem. She launched the Alice Seeligberg school after a tour of Hadassah projects in the country.

**ARRIVALS:** Mr. Benjamin Mintz, Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, from a visit to the U.S. and Europe (by Swisstel); Mr. Julian Maitland from an export mission for the Zevah Paint Works and Dr. Levin's Antibiotic Laboratories; and Mrs. Lily Tobias, after a six-month trip to Europe and the U.S.

**DEPARTURES:** Miss Anna Restrepo, former Minister of Education of Columbia, with 57 of her compatriots, after a six-day tour of Israel (by SAS).

Prof. G. Racah will address the Jerusalem Rotary Club at the King David Hotel today on atomic energy. The Haifa Maritime Club will hold a business meeting.

Dr. N. Wydra, Shalom Director, will speak on "Obstacles to EIM development" at the Haifa Maritime Club at 11.30 on Friday.

**BIRTH**  
To: Louis (nee Duyzend) and Fred Cato in Jerusalem, a daughter - Vardit Estella.

**MEMORIAL MEETING**  
A memorial meeting for Robert Stricker, the Zionist leader who died in Auschwitz ten years ago, will be held at the Z.O.A. House at 8.30 p.m. on Friday, 13.5. Spring, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, and Mr. Meir Grossman will speak.

**ENCOURAGING NEW HEBREW WRITING**

A fund for the "encouragement of creative Hebrew writing" has been established by the Information and Cultural Services Section in cooperation with the Hebrew Writers Union. The fund, named in memory of the poet, Yitzhak Lamdan, will give Hebrew writers an opportunity for original work and will also enable them to travel abroad.

Interested authors are requested to write to the Hebrew Writers Union, P.O.B. 6121, Tel Aviv, within two months.

The Brenner Prize is to be awarded at a ceremony to be held under the auspices of the Hebrew Writers Union at the Beeri Club, 9 Rehov Alhazir, Jerusalem, at 8 o'clock on Thursday evening.

The award was founded two years ago by Mr. Yosef H. Breuer. Past recipients of the prize include Y. Lamdan, D. Maletz, R. Shazar-Katznelson, S. Shalem, A. Brodes, S. Yisrael, D. Baron, D. Sedan, and M. Shamir.

**AID TO NILE VICTIMS**  
GENEVA Tuesday (Reuter).— More than \$10,000 worth of emergency aid is being rushed to Egypt by sea and air for the thousands of flood victims in Upper Nile areas. The League of Red Cross Societies announced today.

**ON THE AIR**

**FIRST PROGRAMME**  
TEL AVIV: 7 a.m., 1.30, 6.00, 6.15, 8.30 and 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programmes (including News); 4 a.m., 2.15 & 4.30 p.m. English Morning Programmes; 6.30 a.m. English News; 6.30 p.m. English News; 6.45 Musical Clock (R.I.); 7.10 Morning News (R.I.); 8.30 Oriental News; 9.00 Current Affairs; 12.00 N. "Music at Noon" (R.I.); 12.30 Opera; 1.30 Break for Music; 4.00 P.M. "The Time Music" (R.I.); 4.45 Piano Recital; Madeline Oliver; 4.55 Light Music (R.I.); 8.30 Children's Hour; 9.00 English News; 10.00 English News; 11.30 Light Music (R.I.); 12.00 Children's Hour; 12.30 English News; 1.00 P.M. English News; 2.00 P.M. English News; 3.00 P.M. English News; 4.00 P.M. English News; 5.00 P.M. English News; 6.00 P.M. English News; 7.00 P.M. English News; 8.00 P.M. English News; 9.00 P.M. English News; 10.00 P.M. English News; 11.00 P.M. English News; 12.00 P.M. English News; 1.00 P.M. English News; 2.00 P.M. English News; 3.00 P.M. English News; 4.00 P.M. English News; 5.00 P.M. 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Wednesday, January 8, 1958  
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**T**HE bus companies' threat to strike next Sunday unless their demand for a 25 per cent increase in fares is granted is but a repetition of the **COMPANIES' DEMANDS** which has opened every camion that the companies have fought in recent years. It is accompanied as usual by the argument that the price of bus travel in Israel is, in any case, cheaper than in most other countries.

It is not mentioned that there are few countries in the world where citizens are forced to endure such conditions of dangerous overcrowding, such irregularly kept schedules and vehicles maintained in such a state of disrepair. The menace of buses in which glass panes are broken and cracked, in which windows do not open or shut properly; where insecurely fastened centre doors abound, is also a hazard which no other country tolerates. Nor would modern transport authorities anywhere, except in the Israel bus cooperatives, allow either their vehicles or their personnel to appear in such a state of apparent lack of cleanliness as do the Israel bus companies. It seems obvious when looking at buses in the early morning that they are but rarely cleaned. These factors must surely be taken into consideration when the bus cooperatives claim that theirs is the cheapest service in the world. Cheap it may be, but not to the public.

There are certain aspects of their case which may indeed merit consideration. If they have not had it, it is because each time an enquiry in bus services has been mooted in the past it was always accompanied by threat of a strike, undue haste on the Communications Minister's part to come to an agreement and a compromise bristling with pie-crust promises to the public. There is a partial meeting of demands which is inevitably bears the seeds of another demand in the near future and suggestions for an improvement in general efficiency which though rarely implemented serve as a smoke screen behind which the Communications Minister can make his retreat with a semblance of firmness.

Moreover, it is questionable whether the 15 per cent increase granted the bus companies was fairly applied. Thus last February the bus cooperatives were given the right to raise fares by an agreed surcharge. On most routes they rose by an appreciably larger figure. The excuse given by the bus companies was that this was to compensate for not asking more in outlying routes. It was not mentioned that the travellers on these routes may have numbered a few hundreds a day while those on which the illegal higher percentage was charged numbered many thousands.

The bus companies undertook to issue workers' tickets. Was this ever done? They have issued multiple tickets but certainly in Jerusalem one has to be a detective to find the places where these are on sale: they are not usable after 8 p.m. even with a surcharge and all sorts of petty technicalities are raised by drivers to limit their popularity. The cooperatives promised express services, shelters at bus stops and in these respects, too, has breach of promise been more apparent than the performance.

It is quite possible that certain increases in bus fares may be economically justified but they cannot be granted piecemeal and haphazard as a result of pressure tactics by the bus companies and a failure to govern strongly by the Communications Ministry. There should be a strict and open public enquiry, a thorough efficient and impartial audit of the cooperatives' books and a long term plan. The latter should end in a Transport Bill which will make the observance of certain minimum canons of public transport service a legal and inescapable obligation of the bus companies and provide sufficient sanctions to see that they are carried out. On such conditions the public might agree to a small rise in fares honestly applied and shown by proper audit to be economically justifiable — but not otherwise.

### Benefits Taxable

Annual benefits paid by the National Insurance Institute will be subject to income tax, it has been decided. The tax will be imposed on endowments and pensions and workers' compensation sums.

On the other hand, one-time or short-term payments, such as maternity benefits, will not be subject to income tax.

### Letter from Bombay

From Our Own Correspondent

**T**HE Indian climate is at its best at this time of the year. There are sunny days and cool nights in the plains, crisp, cold weather on the plateaux of the hill-land and snow in the northern hill-stations. The main animal, which in this country is inclined to come into the picture in the summer, comes to life again during these few blessed months of cooler weather.

As far as the political climate is concerned, the prevailing wind appears to be blowing, if not from the East, then from the West, and, along the axis which stretches from China via Burma and India, to Yugoslavia. Here in Bombay, the people were stirred by the simultaneous arrival of Marshal Tito and a Chinese Cultural Delegation.

Disembarking from his yacht, "Galeb" at the impasse, Gurdaspur, built to honor the war of India, the King George V in 1919, the Marshal was immediately surrounded by a security screen. Of his eight hours in Bombay, three were spent sightseeing on the neighbouring island of Elephanta, a distinguished visitor, may, of course, have inspired a desire to see the island's rock-temples, but it is believed that the security authorities felt that it would be easier to look after him there.

The first head of a state to visit India since it came to its independence, Marshal Tito was honoured by the publication of a special Government Gazette Extraordinary. This was published in order to permit the Marshal to import and consume his own shawls within the borders of this "dry" state, to transport intoxicating liquors with him on his yacht, incidentally, was a Beni Israel railwayman, and to exempt him from paying customs duty.

Marshal Tito and Mr. Nehru have since issued a joint statement stressing the need for co-existence and though the famous Indo-Chinese "Panchashila" or Five Principles, laid down at the Nehru-Chou talks, were not actually mentioned, all the points made there were reaffirmed.

### Cultural Delegation

**H**IRD on the heels of Marshal Tito came the Chinese Cultural Delegation who are being given a vociferous welcome wherever they go. "Hindi Chin Chin Bhai Bhai" (Indians and Chinese are brothers) is the slogan on everyone's lips. The Chinese were welcomed by the Chinese Vice-Minister of Culture, gave two open-air performances in the Vallabhai Patel Stadium, with an audience of more than 20,000 on each occasion. The Chinese community of Bombay, which is fairly large, turned up in full force and the important tailors and tailors in the Congress was played by Israel's Director of Forestry, Mr. Amihai Goor, who was chosen to head the important sub-committee on the afforestation of arid zones. The Goor Committee, which was in the process of a joint venture with the Chinese, was called to this subject. The Congress called



"Nothing at all — just a few Chinese trying to leave to the left." — Free Press, Bombay

Photo: AP

Photo